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#### **New group of deployers head to Iraq**

Lt. Col. Rajul Vaishnani, an anesthesiologist with the 59th Surgical Operations Squadron (center), hugs his wife, Sonia, and son, Samir, in the Wilford Hall parking lot as he prepares to depart for Iraq. He and more than 60 other personnel from the 59th Medical Wing left Tuesday to man the Air Force Theater Hospital at Balad Air Base. Colonel Vaishnani also leaves behind Samir's twin sister, Sonya, and his newborn son, Kadin. *Photo by Staff Sgt. Ruth Stanley*

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## Wilford Hall medics depart for Iraq

**By 2nd Lt. David Herndon**  
59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

More than 60 Airmen from the 59th Medical Wing at Wilford Hall Medical Center departed Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, Tuesday in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

This deployment was the first of the year for 59th Medical Wing medics, mobilizing medical personnel to the Air Force Theater Hospital at Balad Air Base, Iraq, to relieve wing personnel already there.

The 59th Medical Wing expects to deploy nearly 230 Airmen for Air Expeditionary Force Cycle 5 and 6 and will continue to be the primary staffer of the Balad AB Hospital. The rotation is slated to last a total of four months.

Since September 2004, more than 2,800 Wilford Hall medics have deployed from San Antonio to staff the hospital, providing the highest level of specialty healthcare to a war zone.

Medics from Wilford Hall will be attached to the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group in Iraq. The group is composed of nearly 300 staff members.

The Air Force Theater Hospital possesses specialties in everything from anesthesia, nutritional medicine and ophthalmology to ankle plastic surgery, physical therapy and emergency medicine.



Lt. Col. Frank Palmisano, 59th Diagnostics and Therapeutics Group administrator (left), goes through deployment paperwork with his wife, Lt. Col. Jane Palmisano, 859th Medical Operations Squadron, outside Wilford Hall as he prepares to depart Lackland Air Force Base Tuesday. Colonel Palmisano will serve as director of operations at the Balad Air Base hospital. *Photo by Staff Sgt. Ruth Stanley*

It serves as equivalent to a Level One trauma center, providing medical care to military, civilian, Iraqi Army and police, Iraqi civilians, Iraqi children and insurgents.

In a typical month the hospital sees more than 650 emergency room patients and performs more than 450 surgeries.

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Maj. Maryann Dowd, a pediatric nurse in the 859th Medical Operations Squadron, reminds daughter Rachael to behave while she's gone, as the two say goodbye in the Wilford Hall auditorium Tuesday.

*Photo by Staff Sgt. Ruth Stanley*

## Are you HIPAA compliant?

**By Lane R. Hatcher**  
HIPAA Compliance Consultant

Let's talk about the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, or HIPAA. You've completed your annual training (haven't you?). You've seen the posters with the 59th Medical Wing's HIPAA privacy officer's photo and contact info (correct?). You make sure that sensitive patient information in your area is not unnecessarily exposed to those without a need to know (don't you?).

But really, other than the training, the poster, and making sure that

documents with patient information aren't left lying around, what else is there to HIPAA?

Last year, Kathie and Bob got a divorce. Bob's job duties required that he have access to the Composite Healthcare System. Kathy had some health problems and Bob tried to use those problems to support his child custody case against Kathy.



Airman 1st Class Jennifer Alder disposes of privacy act material in the Patient Administration office in accordance with HIPPA regulations. *Photo by Staff Sgt. Ruth Stanley*

Bob got his information about Kathy's health problems from CHCS and, when he did this, he violated the HIPAA privacy rules.

Dr. Smith is a specialist at her military treatment facility and she regularly sees patients from other MTFs. Sometimes those patients bring compact disks that contain copies of their radiologic films and results, including their names, Social Security numbers and other personal information.

The last time Joe had an appointment with Dr. Smith, he brought a CD with radiologic information that was more than one year old. Because of the age of the information, Dr. Smith ordered a new series of films. The CD was thrown in the nearest open trash can. By sheer luck, the contents of that trash can were confiscated during a HIPAA walk-through, and Joe's CD was properly destroyed.

Several months ago there was an internal move of one department to a newly renovated area within an MTF. During that time, the staff took the opportunity to go through their storage areas and discovered box upon box of old patient logs and other patient information which included names, SSNs, dates of birth ... everything a thief needs to steal an identity. Those boxes were emptied into open and unsecured trash cans and made their way to the loading dock for disposal. Again, by sheer luck, an operation was under way to look at contents from unsecured garbage cans, and the boxes were discovered. The contents were subsequently shredded and disposed of appropriately.

Each of the above scenarios are true, they really happened. So, what can you do?

First, recognize and remember that CHCS, AHLTA, the Integrated Clinical Database (ICDB), and all the

other patient care systems at 59th MDW and 37th Medical Group are in place to support our mission of providing the highest standards of care to our patients. Along with those systems come a potential vulnerability, and a requirement for trust. Our health records and those of our families, friends, and co-workers are easily available to a large number of people.

- Do not use 59th MDW or 37th MDG computer systems to satisfy your own curiosity regarding another's healthcare status.

- Whether you are a friend, family member, co-worker, supervisor, or staff member, if you do not have the patient's authorization to review their health information for any reason other than treatment, payment, or healthcare operations, don't do it.

- If an individual suspects that someone has or will access their healthcare information, the 59th MDW has the ability to run traces on system activity and verify system abuses.

Second, all sources of information about a patient's health status must be disposed of properly when no longer needed.

- Paper documents must either be shredded or placed in locked gray bins for later destruction. If you don't have locked gray bins available in your area, step up and contact your zone master. That individual can obtain the locked gray bins, as well as the smaller locked gray trash cans that fit under desks.

- Even when you're cleaning house in your area, look at each document that you want to throw out: does it have any patient information on it? If so, either shred it or place it in one of the locked gray bins. Sure, it can mean that a cleanup job might take extra time, but isn't that better than potentially exposing patient information to the city dump?

- Electronic media such as CDs and DVDs may be shredded, or scratched and broken. If your area doesn't have a shredder that can accommodate a CD or DVD, contact your supervisor about ordering the right kind of shredder to do the job. In the meantime, don't throw magnetic media in any garbage can before destroying it. Break it, or thoroughly scratch it and confirm that it cannot be read, prior to disposing of it. (Note that no magnetic media should be placed in the locked gray bins. They're for paper items only.)

HIPAA is about everyone taking those few extra steps to prevent situations like the above from happening in the first place. If you have questions about HIPAA rules and proper safeguarding of personal information, call 2-5318.

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## Upgrading the warfighter

**by Senior Airman Brian  
Ferguson**  
Air Force Print News

Airmen who wear glasses or  
contact lenses know how  
difficult it can be to deploy to



an environment riddled with sand and dust.

The Wilford Hall Refractive Surgery Center is offering to fix this problem, giving Airmen the chance to surgically correct their vision, with no wait.

"If you look at an Airman as the most advanced weapons system in the Air Force, refractive surgery would be like upgrading the avionics on an F-16 (Fighting Falcon)," said Lt. Col. Charles Reilly, director of the center.

"We have no waiting list for the surgery, because we have more capacity, so our ability has grown," he said.



(Above and below) Lt. Col. Charles Reilly performs Epi-LASIK surgery on Capt. Ruth Brenner Dec. 19 at the Wilford Hall Refractive Surgery Center at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. The center has openings most every day for surgery and has some of the most advanced equipment in the world for performing refractive surgeries. *Photos by Senior Airman Brian Ferguson*



There are many surgical options for patients at the refractive surgery center: Laser-In-Situ Keratomileusis, or LASIK; Photorefractive Keratectomy, known as PRK; and some newer procedures such as Epi-LASIK, which is a combination of the two.

Advancements in technology and systems, and improved efficiency also have contributed to the expanded capacity of the center, Colonel Reilly said.

In the past, the waiting lists for corrective eye surgery have been long, with waits up to one year.

Military members requesting the surgery must first fill out an application, have their commander's authorization and an eyeglass prescription that is at least one to two years old. On average, only ten to fifteen percent of patients who apply for the surgery will not qualify.

Colonel Reilly says that the demand for the surgery has not decreased, capacity has simply increased and the center has surgical openings most every day.

Maj. Phillip Mason, an emergency medicine physician, received PRK one-and-a-half years ago. He had

deployed before the surgery and then after the surgery.

"After the surgery I had no limiting factor when it came to my vision," said Major Mason.

Colonel Reilly says that vision is the most important asset one has for taking in information in the world around us, so one should be very careful when contemplating surgery and then having surgery done.

"The risk isn't zero, there is always a risk and there are never any guarantees when it comes to surgery," said Colonel Reilly.

Wilford Hall has a tremendous success rate with refractive surgery, and has never had an aviator not return to flight status after surgery.

Colonel Reilly says that patients here have a 96 to 98 percent chance of achieving better than 20/20 vision after surgery.

"Outside of a little pain, the experience was very pleasant," said Major Mason. "It is a pretty well-oiled machine here at Wilford Hall."

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## Traffic safety info

There are two new changes in roadway conditions that everyone who travels Lackland AFB and Kelly USA need to know. First, the speed limit for 36th Street on Kelly USA has changed from 30 to 40 miles per hour. This is the street that runs parallel to the Kelly Field Annex. Drivers will need to pay extra attention on this road as the new legal speed limit will reduce reaction time for driver maneuvers such as pulling into traffic or braking.

The second change is due to traffic congestion and some related mishaps at the intersection of Bergquist Road and the Wilford Hall Medical Center Loop (see below), where it will become a 3-way stop, effective Friday. The Stop signs will be placed on each side of the lanes going outbound, just before the intersection in the center of the photo. This will make it a 3-way stop, with inbound traffic having the right-of-way, similar to the intersection of Kenly and Selfridge.

For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Ricardo San Miguel at 2-6587.



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## Promotion results announced

The Air Force recently announced the colonel, lieutenant colonel, major and captain selections for promotion:

The complete lists are available on the Air Force Personnel Center Web site at:

<http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/officerprom/default.asp?prods3=10&prods2>

Congratulations to the following 59th Medical Wing personnel who were selected for promotion:

### **Promotion to Colonel:**

Spencer Frink  
Woodson Jones  
Brian Kendall  
Timothy Kirkpatrick

Keith Morita  
Sandra Osswald  
Delia Ramos

### **Promotion to Lieutenant Colonel:**

Rachel Beck  
Mark Campbell  
Soto Damaris Candelario  
Steven Cyr  
Monica Dalrymple  
Vinod Gidvanidiaz  
Stephen Gill  
Patrick Grogan  
Warren Kadrmas  
James Knowles  
Donald Kowalewski  
Robert Kowalski, Jr.  
Jimmy Lau

David Laughlin  
Jeffrey McNeil  
Andrew Moore  
Douglas Nelson  
Fernando Nmi Silva  
Robert Thaxton  
Nicole Thomas  
John Walton  
Michael Webb  
William Winter, III  
Yi Yang  
Shawn P. Zarr

### **Promotion to Major:**

Joshua Alley



Courtney Anderson  
Jonathan Arnholt  
Monty Baker  
Eric Barnes  
John Baron  
Michael Benca  
Jonathan Bishop  
David Bonilla  
David Browder  
Edward Caballero  
Dianna Calvin  
Lydia Carpenter  
Heather Cereste  
William Cotter  
John Davis  
Steven Demartini  
Michael Derr  
Catherine Dickinson  
Robert Emery  
Kelly Englund  
Jeffrey Fait  
Irene Folaron  
Jennifer Galgano  
Usha Gokhale  
Erika Gonzalez  
Shannon Grabarkewitz  
Charles Haggerty  
Ryan Hanson  
Rachelle Hartze  
Steven Held  
Joshua Hethcox  
William Hilton  
Brian Hogan  
Fawn Hogan  
Robert Holmes  
Keith Joe  
Roy Johnson, III  
Jeremy Kennedy  
Scott King  
Fred Krey  
Tristan Lai  
Jeffrey Lammers

Steven Lehr  
Jason Lennen  
Michelle Lester  
Matthew Lippstone  
Joseph Love  
Joseph McDermott  
Brian Min  
Erik Nott  
Erik Oberg  
Jason Okulicz  
Kristina Orio  
Mary Ovellette  
Vasudha Panday  
Thomas Paynter  
James Pledger, II  
Cynthia Pouncey  
Rolando Ramos  
Christopher Reed  
John Renshaw  
Ian Riddock  
Denise Roberts  
Janelle Robertson  
Michael Russell  
Tamar Sautter  
Erik Schwalier  
Andrew Sedivy  
James Seneschal  
Jeremy Skabelund  
Benjamin Smith  
Jennings Staley  
Jonathan Streeter  
Drew Swasey  
William Talley, Jr.  
Louis Varner  
Michele Vita  
Robin Stephenson-Bratcher  
Sammy Tucker  
Annette Williams  
Brandon Williams  
Oliver Wisco  
David Zonies

#### **Promotion to Captain:**

Jordan Lindeke  
Elizabeth Kurz  
Vera Parker  
Pamela Rabe  
David Winter  
Nick Acson  
Morgan Robert  
Gwendolyn Walker  
Angelica Galindo  
Robertta Bauder

Tami Blecha  
Jennifer Caruso  
Rhiannon De Jong  
Aidan Oneil  
Lea Raymond  
Regina Tow  
Lorraine Walters  
Kellie Webb  
Matthew Williams

Paul Boseman  
Adrienne Fields

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## Remembering a leader

### Martin Luther King commemorative services held today

Team Lackland honored Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by hosting commemorative services today at the Lackland Freedom Chapel, followed by a reception. The theme, “The Dream, Here and Now,” is the focus of music, words and fellowship.

This year’s keynote speaker is Dr. Bradley Scott, Ph.D. Director for Intercultural Development Research Association South Central Collaborative for Equity.

Dr. King was a great man who worked for racial equality in the United States of America.



He was born Jan. 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Ga. Both his father and grandfather were ministers. His mother was a schoolteacher who taught him how to read before he went to school. As a young man he was an excellent student in school.

After graduating from college and getting married, Dr. King became a minister and moved to Alabama. During the 1950's, Dr. King became active in the movement for civil rights and racial equality. He participated in the Montgomery, Alabama, bus boycott and many other peaceful demonstrations that protested the unfair treatment of African-Americans. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

Dr. King was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee. Commemorating the life of a tremendously important leader, we celebrate Martin Luther King Day each year in January.

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## Gold Headed Cane banquet scheduled

The 2007 Gold Headed Cane Banquet is scheduled for Jan. 26 at the Westin Riverwalk, 420 West Market Street.

The Gold Headed Cane Award honors physicians for excellence in patient care, resident teaching and clinical research. Wilford Hall’s Gold Headed Cane Society selects one faculty member each year based on his or her all-around excellence in the field of medicine. The tradition began here in 1992.

The guest speaker for this year’s banquet is Dr. William G. Plested III, President of the American Medical Association. The banquet will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information and to purchase a ticket, contact

Ms. Nancy Williams-Sykes at 2-6002.

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## Free Dental Assistant Training Program offered

The 59th Dental Squadron at Lackland Air Force Base is currently accepting applications for the Red Cross Dental Assistant Program. Family Members of active duty and retired military personnel who would like to become dental assistants may apply. The intensive six-month program includes dental anatomy, dental materials, fourhanded dentistry and radiographic technique training. Upon graduation students will receive a certificate of training from the Air Force as well as a Red Cross Volunteer Certificate. The next class begins Mar. 26 and will be held Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Interviews will be held Mar. 12, 13 and 14 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Applications will be accepted through Mar. 8. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, have a high school diploma or G.E.D, and commit to six months of training. Points of contacts are Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Cintron and Senior Airman Lacy Clemente at 925-1846 or email [Elizabeth.Cintron@Lackland.AF.Mil](mailto:Elizabeth.Cintron@Lackland.AF.Mil) or [Lacy.Clemente@Lackland.AF.Mil](mailto:Lacy.Clemente@Lackland.AF.Mil).

## Endodontics department seeks patients

The Department of Endodontics at MacKown Dental Clinic on Lackland Air Force Base is seeking patients needing root canal therapy for treatment in the Wilford Hall Medical Center Endodontic Residency Program. Applicants must be a military retiree, family member of a retiree or family member of active duty and have recently been diagnosed by a dentist with an endodontic condition requiring root canal therapy. Eligible patients should obtain a written consult from their referring dentist and fax it to 292-6431 or bring it the MacKown Dental Clinic during normal duty hours. Patients will be selected for treatment based on the needs of the endodontic training program. Call 2-7214 for more information.



Capt. Rene Saenz , senior dental resident assigned to the 59th Dental Squadron, performs a preliminary dental exam on Jaelen Brown, son of Staff Sgt. Mario Brown, 690th Intelligence Support Squadron. *Photo by Staff Sgt. Ruth Stanley*

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# Hollywood actress praises troops

*The following speech was delivered by actress Elisabeth Röhm during the Brooke Army Medical Center holiday ball on Dec. 8 and is reprinted with permission.*

Good Evening General Gillman, officers, hospital staff, family, friends and, most importantly, all of the members of our distinguished Armed Forces who are here with us tonight.



Brig. Gen. (Dr.) David Young, 59th Medical Wing commander (left), visits with actress Elisabeth Röhm during the Brooke Army Medical Center holiday ball on Dec. 8. Ms. Röhm is best known for her role on the television series, *Law and Order* and was a guest speaker at the event. *Photo by Mike Dulevitz*

When I was asked by the Friars Foundation to participate in this great event I saw a certain irony in the request, a difference between us which has given me much to think about as I prepared to meet you. It seemed to me that I, as an actor, live in fantasy portraying heroic people while you stand firmly, facing the reality of profoundly challenging experiences, and are actually heroes. Don't get me wrong, I love my job, but to me I am standing before a room of warriors, men and women who made a choice to be courageous, in their service to the military, but also in meeting life head on.

You have tremendous character, a word we use often at work as we act out the people we admire most. For, although you may experience difficulty, you will always be able to claim the victory of having behaved with force and measure, not swayed by fear. From the words of someone who knew quite a bit about adversity, our 26th president Theodore Roosevelt, "The credit belongs to the man (and woman) who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly and spends himself on a worthy cause, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

I know for myself that your strength gives me great encouragement in my life, even though much of my life is make believe. In fact, every actor friend I talked to would have not only willingly, not gladly and proudly taken my place tonight.

I think that we, the United States of America, should honor the freedoms we are blessed with and that you defended. I know I certainly am grateful for the Democracy that we live in, that was not simply granted to us as a matter of right, but fought for and earned by those, like you, who were willing to make sacrifices so that our society might enjoy the fruits of their labors.

From battles that marked the birth of our nation to the current struggle to protect ourselves from the enemies of freedom, members of the U.S. military have never failed to demonstrate great courage. Every day, soldiers, like you, put their lives on the line to fight for our country and our ideal of freedom, and the courage that you show in the arena of combat is both physical and mental.

Those of you here in Brooke Army Medical Center still engage in combat, but you face the new challenge of rebuilding and healing, which can tax your mind and body every bit as much as combat in the field. To

confront this enemy requires no less courage and you show this quality in striving against the limitations of your body and finding new ways to adjust to life.

I know that this is a challenging time but you are not alone. Just as you stand behind your nation, your nation stands behind you. You are not out there detached from us. We think about you always. Not only do we think about you, we talk about you. You should know that everywhere we go, we talk about you. We talk about you and the courage you show.

When I'm working on a movie set in Hollywood or Texas, in Nevada or North Carolina, we talk about you. The actors, the writers, the caterers and the costumers...we talk about you!

When I'm doing volunteer work for the Red Cross in Alabama or Louisiana, in Oregon or in Michigan, we talk about you. The volunteers, the victims of their own challenges of flood and fire, the police and the firemen...we talk about you.

When I'm home in New York City, mumbling prayers of gratitude at Thanksgiving with my family and friends, we talk about you...your courage, your challenges and your safe return home to your own families.

Everywhere I go, we talk about you. We owe you a great debt of gratitude. We owe you the best efforts we can make to protect the peace you have fought for. We cannot let you down.

As Franklin Roosevelt said on the eve of a war, remembering a war that was supposed to be a war to end all wars, "Peace can endure only so long as humanity insists on it and is willing to work for it and sacrifice for it. Twenty five years ago American fighting men looked to the statesmen of the world to finish the work of peace for which they fought and suffered. We failed them then. We cannot fail them again and expect the world to survive again."

I hope you all feel honored and cherished, as you should, upon your return home and during the challenges that lay ahead. You have taken care of us and ensured our safety...may we do the same in return.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart and wish you and yours a very happy holiday.

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## Distinguished Graduate

Tech Sgt. Antoniette Ruffino, 59th Clinical Research Division, reviews paperwork as one of her many duties as Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of the division. Sergeant Ruffino was recently honored as a Noncommissioned Officer Academy Class 07-1 distinguished graduate. *Photo by Master Sgt. Kimberly Yearyeon-Siers*

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## First baby of 2007

U.S. Navy reservist Lt. Cmdr. Dana Clay (left) and husband Maj. Gregory Clay, who is currently assigned to Brooks City-Base, pose with their daughter, Nicole Elena Clay, who was the first baby born at Wilford Hall Medical Center in 2007, along with their son, 3-year-old Zachary Clay. Baby Nicole arrived at 1:14 a.m. and weighted 8 pounds and 4 and a half ounces, and was 21 and a quarter inches long. The family received gift baskets from a local vendor and the 59th Medical Wing Volunteer Services Office and Birthing Center. The gift baskets included diapers, a quilt, baby bath, diaper cream, a \$50 gift card, laundry basket, diaper cake, stuffed animals, photo frames, baby wash, lotion, candles, receiving blankets, t-shirts and more. *Photo by Capt. Angela Lacek*



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# Commander's Action Line

I want to keep lines of communication open within our wing and for our patients and other partners. Please call the Action Line at 2-4567 with your suggestions, comments or questions about the way we do business, or send an email to [59MDW.PA@lackland.af.mil](mailto:59MDW.PA@lackland.af.mil). Of course, you should always try to resolve problems first at the lowest level possible. If you leave your name, telephone number and a detailed message, you will receive a personal response to questions or complaints. A good source of information about various Air Force issues is "Air Force One Source," an information service provided in partnership with the Family Support Center. Call toll free 1-800-707-5784 24 hours a day, or access their Web site at [www.airforceonesource.com](http://www.airforceonesource.com).



*Brig. Gen. David Young  
59th Medical Wing commander*

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## Bulletin Board

### **Circled insignia mandatory**

The U.S. insignia in a circle is now mandatory wear on the enlisted service dress uniform. The change reverts back to the traditional insignia -- with the circle -- Airmen wore from 1918 through the early 1990s. For more information, contact your unit first sergeant.

### **Stars and Bars Dining-In planned for February**

The annual Stars and Bars dining-in is scheduled for Feb. 2 from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Gateway Club. This year's theme is "Shaping the Future" and uniform is mess dress. The guest speaker will be Maj. Gen. Craig Koziol, Air Intelligence Agency commander. Tickets are \$25 each and available through Jan. 26. Call 2nd Lt. Ashley Devoto at 977-2925 for more information or to purchase a ticket.

### **Emergency War Surgery Course scheduled**

An Emergency War Surgery Course nursing component will be held Jan. 31 to Feb. 2 in the orthopedics conference room. Participants will receive 31.2 hours of continuing education credit, but must pre-register to attend. Call Rose Bolenbaucher at 2-2676 for more information or to register.

### **Civilian Liaison Office walk-in hours changed**

Walk-in hours for the 59th Medical Wing Civilian Liaison Office, Bldg. 3550, Room 5, are now Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8 to 11 a.m. Commanders and group administrators are welcome any time. Walk-in time is for assistance with general Civil Service questions (pay, out-processing and employee relations issues). Appointments will be available for issues that require at least one hour. For

more information, call Senior Airman Gastonleng Francois at 2-5600/5899.

### **Scholarship applications now being accepted**

The Bernard P. Randolph Scholarship, established in 1992, supports college-bound seniors or full-time college students in the San Antonio military, civilian or dependent community. The scholarships will range from \$500-\$1,000 and will be awarded at a city-wide scholarship banquet in February (date and location to be announced). A 600-800 word essay must be submitted with application. The theme of the essay is: How Hip Hop culture impacts African American youth. Independent evaluators will judge the essays. Applications may be obtained at Brooks City-Base, Lackland and Randolph Air Force Bases or Fort Sam Houston. Applications can be picked up at all base libraries, Education Offices or Family Support Centers. Applications and essays are due at 3 p.m. Jan 31. For more details contact 2nd Lt. Shannon Harper at 536-4740 or e-mail [Shannon.harper@brooks.af.mil](mailto:Shannon.harper@brooks.af.mil).

### **Donated leave needed**

The following individuals have been approved as recipients of donated leave under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program. Each individual has run out of leave to cover their absences from work and face serious financial hardship.

- **Margarita Carrillo**, 759th Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron, has a serious medical emergency/condition. Employees wishing to donate annual leave to Ms. Carrillo can contact Senior Master Sgt. Kelvin Belcher at 2-5285 or Ronald Debonee at 2-4431.
- **Consuelo Karp**, 859th Surgical Operations Squadron, is in need of annual leave donations due to a recent diagnosis of cancer and post-surgery chemotherapy treatments. Employees wishing to donate annual leave to Mrs. Karp can contact Pam Schlegel, 37 MSS/DPCE, at 3-1021 or Lourdes Campos, 37th MSS/DPCE, at 3-4685. The form can be fax directly to Ms. Schlegel or Ms. Campos at 3-3910.
- **Janie Zepeda**, 759th Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron, has a serious medical emergency/condition. Employees wishing to donate annual leave to Ms. Zepeda can contact Tech. Sgt. John Williams at 2-3919 or Master Sgt. Chea Kim at 2-2547.

### **African American Heritage Committee Opening Ceremony volunteers needed**

The African American Heritage Committee Opening Ceremony will take place Feb. 2 in the Wilford Hall Medical Center auditorium. Volunteers are needed to help with this event. If interested, contact Maj. Claudine Wega at 2-3788 or by e-mail.

### **Bluebonnet Ball and Silent Auction volunteers needed**

Plans are underway for the 9th Annual Bluebonnet Ball and Silent Auction to be held on May 5 at the Dominion Country Club. This year's theme is "Taking Care of Our Own, Then and Now." Those interested in volunteering to be on the Bluebonnet Ball Committee, contact Kaori Anderson at [iankaori@hotmail.com](mailto:iankaori@hotmail.com) or 463-9481. Volunteers are needed to help with donations, publicity, decorations and more. If you are interested in attending, or donating items to the auction, contact Ms. Anderson. This event is sponsored by the Wilford Hall Officers Association and is their main fundraiser of the year.

### **100 volunteers needed Jan. 13**

The Lackland Youth Programs is seeking 100 volunteers to help with their "100 Strong Builders/Workers for Lackland Youth" program. This is a Team Lackland community imitative which will help our Youth Center move into its new building. Volunteers are needed Jan. 13 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and may choose to work four hours in the morning or afternoon. Lunch will be provided from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day. Volunteers will meet at the old Lackland Youth Center building, Bldg. 8208. The event coordinator is hoping to have 10 teams of 10 volunteers each. Teams will have breaks on the hour, water and gloves will be provided. Comfortable work clothes are required, no shorts. Teams will do heavy to light lifting, arrangements, assembly and whatever is needed! Volunteers can pick what they feel comfortable doing. Bus transportation will be provided from the old Youth Center to the new one

and back. A certificate of appreciation will be given to all volunteers and Congressional Volunteer points. Contact Tech. Sgt. Ian Bernard at 2-7190 to sign up.

### **Wilford Hall ID Card Office closed Jan. 22 and 23**

The Wilford Hall Medical Center Identification Card Office in room 1C36 will be closed on Jan. 22 and 23 for a software upgrade. The office will re-open on Jan. 24 Jan at 7:30 a.m. As an alternate, the Lackland Military Personnel Flight ID Card Office in Bldg. 5616, room 136, will be open and servicing customers during the closure. If you have any questions, contact Master Sgt. Wolf or Mr. Bell at 3-6006/4178.

### **Judges needed**

San Antonio students will participate in the 2007 Academic Decathlon on Jan. 19. This is a speech/interview contest where students will compete for state and national awards. Judges are needed that evening from 3:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Stevens High School (600 N. Ellison, which is near Potranco and 151). All 59th Medical Wing personnel (military and civilians) are invited to serve as judges. Military personnel should wear blue uniform, open collar. No experience is necessary and training will be given. Free dinner will be served to all judges. This is a great opportunity to strengthen the relationship between the Air Force and the San Antonio community and will also serve as a good award or appraisal bullet. If you are interested in serving as a judge, send an email to the event coordinator, Brian Lawrence, at [blawrence@teachnet.edb.utexas.edu](mailto:blawrence@teachnet.edb.utexas.edu). For more information about the event, go to [www.usad.org](http://www.usad.org).

### **Paintball Tournaments held Jan. 20 and 27**

The Lackland Outdoor Adventure Center will host two paintball tournaments this month. A Newbie Paintball Tournament will be held Jan. 20 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., first-time paintball tournament players are encouraged to compete. The \$55 per person entry fee includes air cartridges and a mask and marker rental. Contenders must utilize and purchase paintballs from the paintball counter at \$11 a bag or \$40 a case. Teams will be assigned on game day and consist of a scramble of five players. Sign up at Outdoor Recreation or the paintball counter by Jan. 12. A Military Unit Paintball Tournament will be held Jan. 27 and 28 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, Outdoor Recreation invites Lackland, Randolph, Brooks, Camp Bullis and Ft. Sam Houston personnel to compete in the Military Unit Paintball Tournament. Registration for a five-person team is \$300 plus a \$75 fee for air cartridges. Contenders must utilize and purchase paintballs from the Paintball counter at \$20 a bag or \$70 a case. Sign-ups will be taken until Jan. 19. Prizes and first, second, and third place trophies will be awarded for both events. For complete information, call 925-5532.

### **Youth soccer registration ongoing**

It's time again for the Lackland Youth Soccer Program to begin. The Lackland Youth Sports Programs will be conducting registration from now through Feb. 2. Hours for registration will be Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. An updated sports physical and immunization record must be on file or presented at time of registration in order for children to participate. There will be a parent's meeting on Feb 12. Games will start on March 10. For more information, call 3-2611 or 3-2388.

### **Youth Parent's Night Out held**

Parents, plan now for your night out. Bring kids, ages 6-12 to the Lackland Youth Center for Parent's Night Out from 6:30 p.m. until 12:30 a.m. Jan. 12. For just \$5 per child, kids can enjoy games, movies, crafts, snack, and loads of other fun. Open to all DoD Children. Must be a registered Youth Center Member. For sign-up and complete information, call 3-2388.

### **Youth Lock-In planned for Jan. 19**

Jan. 19, bring the kids ages 6-12 to the Lackland Youth Center for the Pottery Studio Lock-in. The event will take place from 6:30 p.m. until 7 a.m. For \$20 per child, lock em' up for the evening. Kids will be attending a pottery studio to make their own pottery plus, upon return to the center, kids can enjoy



games, movies, crafts, snack, and loads of other fun. Open to all DoD Children. Must be a registered youth center member. For sign-up and complete information, call 3-2388.

### **Football Frenzy offers chance to win prizes**

Attend any Football Frenzy event at the Gateway Club from now until Jan. 31 and become eligible to win a 20-inch flat screen plasma TV or a Bose Home Theater System. For complete info, call 645-7034.

### **Airman's Attic changing days of operation**

In 2007 the Airman's Attic will be open Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and closed Tuesday and Thursdays. All ranks are welcome. The Attic has men and women's clothing, children's clothing, baby items, small appliances, Air Force uniforms and other miscellaneous items. Please bring donations inside the building during hours of operation. For further information call 3-1780.

### **Building successful leadership and relationships class offered**

*Four Lenses* is being held from noon to 4:30 p.m. Jan. 16 at the Airman and Family Readiness Flight, building 1249. The seminar will show how each person is a unique individual and has their own style, mannerisms and way of approaching life's challenges. The seminar also helps one to understand their leadership style and the impact it has on others. The information can be used to build positive and effective teams. The class discussions will focus on how personal communication, selling, buying, leadership and work styles all relate to personality types, and how to effectively use this information to foster workplace and relationship success. For further information call 3-3722. To enroll in this class, use the following website: <https://www.amc-ids.org/php/>

### **Airman and Family Readiness Flight closed Jan. 17**

The Airman and Family Readiness Flight will be closed all day Jan. 17 for official off-site training. For emergencies contact the command post at 3-4225.

### **Bundles For Babies**

All expectant Air Force active duty members and their spouses are invited to attend *Bundles for Babies* 1 to 4:30 p.m. Jan. 18 in Bldg. 1249. Expectant parents will gain valuable knowledge through pediatrics, Family Advocacy, Health and Wellness Center, Safety and Airman and Family Readiness Flight speakers. Air Force active duty participants will receive a gift "bundle" from the Air Force Aid Society. For more information contact Mr. Bill Hall at 3-3722. To register for this class use this website: <https://www.amc-ids.org/php>

### **Resume workshop scheduled**

A resume preparation class will be held 10 a.m. to noon Jan. 19 in Bldg. 1249. Different styles and content of resume writing will be presented. To enroll in the class use the following website: <https://www.amc-ids.org/php/>.

### **Force Shaping Transition Assistance workshop offered**

The Airman and Family Readiness Flight will host the Department of Labor 3-day Transition Assistance Seminar for members eligible for the Force Shaping program. The seminar is 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Jan.; 30 through Feb. 1 in Bldg. 1249. All eligible members can schedule themselves through this website: <https://www.amc-ids.org/php>. All materials will be provided. Civilian clothing is recommended. The point of contact for further information is Margaret Ozuna, 3-3722.

### **Webcams now available**

The Airman & Family Readiness Flight resource room is now equipped with webcams. Members and families separated from loved ones due to deployment, remotes or TDYs are welcome to use the webcams for live chat or e-messaging any time. There is no need to schedule a time; webcams are



available on a first-come basis. For more information contact Tech. Sgt. Dan Krautheim at 3-3722.

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